

The Gleaner.

Vol. I.

No. 10.

JANUARY, 1902.

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THE GLEANER

Vol. I.

NATIONAL FARM SCHOOL, JANUARY, 1902.

No. 10.

A Modern Pharisee's Prayer.

The drudgery I would not do,
O Lord, assign to others!
There's much to do of dirty work—
It will not hurt my brothers!
For they have not such souls refined,
Nor slender milk-white hands;
I'd use my brilliant brain—not brawn,
And thus possess the land!

A "railroad king" or "merchant prince"
I'm fitted for, I trow;
Then let my brothers serve me well
With sweat upon their brows.
'Tis healthful for them, Lord, to dig
And delve in grimy soil—
The sweetest rest they sure will win
With unremitting toil!

And when at last "Thy Kingdom" comes
For which, devout, we've prayed,
Appoint me to some upper place,
In royal robes arrayed;
For my hard working brain, dear Lord,
Will earn sweet, promised rest
Above my brothers (whom I love),
In mansions of the Blest!

—Selected.

Ant Life.

From the earliest times ants have attracted more of the attention of the naturalist, philosopher and poet than any other insect or animal of the past or present generation. It is not so much for its wonderful habits nor peculiarities that led to this fascination; but their methods of living, from a social and

moral standpoint, the caring for their young, and the working of each for the good of the organization that led to the preservation of this species while others have become extinct.

DEVELOPMENT.

It would not be out of place were I to give their successive stages of development, life history, and habits. Leeuwenhoeck, the Dutch naturalist, traced their development to four stages, namely: the Egg, Larva, Pupa and Imago or perfect insect. The eggs are white, elongated and cylindrical. In about a month grubs are produced; these are cared for and in about six weeks are full grown, when they spin an oval cocoon in which they change into the pupa. The cocoons are cared for as tenderly as were the larva. The adults then emerge, and are at once made acquainted with the surroundings and circumstances of the colony.

LIFE HISTORY.

Three different grades of individuals may be found in an ant-hill—the male, female and neuters. The males and females are winged, the former retaining them throughout life, the latter losing them after "pairing" is accomplished. The female or Queen is always attended by neuters, who perform the duties of servants.

The neuters are females having their sexual organs undeveloped. The experiments of entomologists have proven that the causes of differentiation of sex is dependent upon the food with which the larva is fed during the larva stage. The community seems to control the vicissi-

tudes of life, and whether the colony shall flourish is a question that depends upon their judgment. Soldiers, builders, diggers, etc., may be found among the neuters, each one possessing the ability to perform their duty, which determines the success of the organization in capturing slaves and killing the enemy.

HABITS.

Many ants are carnivorous, or flesh eaters. This can best be observed on a summer day while capturing their enemy. They are very greedy, and devour their prey with apparently no feeling of sympathy for the weak or those less able to protect themselves. In tropical climates poultry, mice and cats are said to succumb to these creatures.

Many ants are found engaged in agricultural pursuits, such as storing grain, sowing the seed and harvesting. They may also be found storing honey in the crop of their fellow workers. This is probably the only animal on earth that converts itself into a feeding machine for the good of the community.

The Aphides or plant lice are protected by the ants, who fight the Aphide's enemies, thus preserving the lice for the benefit of the organization. When tickled by the antennæ of the ants the Aphides excrete a sweet substance of which the former is very fond. How this action came about is unknown; how the ants made the discovery that the Aphides contain this nectar is yet a mystery. But it is probable that this discovery was made in past generations, while the Aphides were under bondage, and transmitted to the present generation.

The species that are most interesting to the individual are the *Formica* and *Sanguinaria*, *F. Rufescens* and *Polyergus Rufescens*. In the first the relative position between the master and slave is close and friendly; the master aids the slave extensively, decides the building of the nest, and when immigrating carries the slave between his jaws. In the second species the labor of the slaves is greatly increased, the entire work being performed by them. The third species are the true "nobility and gentry," who do no work, are inactive, and are fed by the slaves. Huber placed thirty,

with plenty of food for their sustenance and with their young to stimulate them, in a box. One-half of the number died, and when a slave was placed among them, it at once set to work and saved the remainder from death.

To test the power of their memory Sir John Lubbock separated an ant from the colony, restoring it at the end of one year. The old ants at once caressed it and rejoiced at the restoration of their old companion. These experiments a number of times were repeated with the same result. To deceive the ants in the nest, a foreigner was introduced in the place of the one taken. The ants immediately perceived the deception and the unwilling intruder was severely punished.

To say that these acts displayed are the result of instinct, rather than intelligence, is a statement that would be suppressed by the naturalist. That the ants profit by past experiences is evinced by the fact that they possess apparently a retentive memory. The preservation of their species, the caring for their young, the power for vivid recollections, are the outcome of forming plans, and tend to corroborate that their actions are the result of intelligence. Until something new be discovered that would convince us otherwise, we must hold to the results given us by men who have made it their life study. "That the acts of the ants are more or less accompanied by some intelligent result," is the view expressed by Darwin and now expressed by present naturalists.

LOUIS A. HIRSCHOWITZ, '03.



BY THE WAY—

This number completes the first volume of *The Gleaner*. Vol. II, No. 1, will be an Annual Number. The students know just what to do. Look out for the Annual Number. That's all.

Twelve numbers of the *American Debater* will make a veritable cyclopædia on Public Speaking, the art and science. The December number is very attrac

ve. Hon. P. J. McCumber, U. S. S., gives some very valuable hints to young debaters, which he epitomizes in the sentence: "One should be wholly himself; but always the very best of himself." Under the department, "The Evolution of the Orator," Charles Wesley Emerson discusses the topic "Smoothness" and George A. Dobson writes of "Deep Breathing." Wendell Phillips's "The Scholar in a Republic" is discussed by E. D. Shurter, editor of the "Great Orations" department. Current History, Questions for Debate and the department devoted to the advancement of the Lyceum League of North America are other matters of interest.—ED.



Such Luck!!

There is a young lady in this affair. Otherwise my story would not be a story. And it's a simple story—vacation, or rather its commencement.

She had promised to meet him at the Reading Terminal, and he, poor simpleton, spent two cents for a postage stamp; procured the most elegant correspondence paper of the pinkest tint and with the best penmanship that he could muster he wrote, politely, * * "I will leave on the 2.25 and arrive at the Terminal at 3.47." * * (Were I inclined to be slangy, which God forbid, I would cry "Rubber!" Is it, really, any of our concern how he opened and how he closed this epistle?) As is often the case, when the greatest amount of pains have been expended upon our penmanship, which, by the way, always comes at the start, some portion of the end is bound to be illegible. Thus with our hero. He, already, had expended six sheets full of pains when he signed his letter. The "P. S." followed, and he then recollected that the object of his letter was yet not accomplished. The train schedule then followed, and being toward the second close, he scratched the 2 so much like a 5 that it might easily be mistaken for a 3; and as for the 3.47, it appeared to be short-hand. Here was a puzzle. "I will leave at .25 and arrive at the Terminal at ——"

Fortunately she possessed a time table. Insert 4.45 in the blank and you have the result of her research.

"I wonder if I have forgotten anything?" "What time is it?" and for the hundred and first time he reopened his valise. But there is a time for everything and a time for dinner.

Now, there is a strong sentiment against taking the 12.49. Though scheduled to arrive twenty minutes earlier, it leaves, however, one hour and thirty-six minutes earlier than the 2.25. That day there was a stronger sentiment than ever against the 12.49. The 2.25 was decided upon. What is twenty minutes difference when a quick ride is accomplished?

To meet her, and arrive at the same time with the rest of the fellows, was more than our young hero dared or cared to risk. To arrive twenty minutes earlier he therefore took the 12.49. He rode along leisurely enough, too absorbed in his thoughts to take note of the tremendous rate, i. e., for the 12.49, that the train was making, when suddenly it stopped. Upon investigation his impatient spirit received a shock. The eccentric bar had broken, which would take about an hour for repairs. Midway between Colmar and Fortuna, they could not be side-tracked. In endeavoring to sympathize with our hero, we are apt to forget that all manner of sympathy would have been rejected. There, for one hour, stood two impatient spirits, the chafing though disabled engine and our uncomfortable friend.

Finally the mighty engine gave a lurch and sped on its way. One hour late at Lansdale! One hour late at the Terminal! Time, 4.43. Two minutes later what we know as the 3.25 arrived.

She was there to meet him and he, unsuspecting what his short-hand like figures served him, resolved from the bottom of his over-flowing heart to give three cheers every time the 12.49 passed the school.

Before his vacation was o'er fate would have it otherwise, for the 12.49 was changed to the 12.40, and therefore the reason that no one, neither the author, knows who is our hero, much less the heroine.

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EDITOR-IN-CHIEF,
WM. J. SERLIN, '02.

ASSOCIATE EDITOR,
LOUIS A. HIRSCHOWITZ, '03.

George S. Borovik, '03, Agricultural.
Maurice Mitzmain, '02, Personal and Social.
Bernard A. Zalinger, '04, Athletics.
Elmore Lee, '04, Exchanges.

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LOUIS BURD, '02.

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EDITORIALS.

To wish what is were something else is one of the most peculiar faculties of student nature. We imagine happiness personified would we be were winter turned to summer, and when summer arrives counter-wish that it were winter; we wish day were night and night—well, remained night. Note the Freshman who wishes his algebra were written by Mark Twain, and the Junior who, when the time for work arrives, wishes it would rain? quite forgetting that "if wishes were horses beggars would ride," as said an old adage. How far better then to face the actuality, in other words take things as they are, and thus overcome much of the unpleasantness that is the cause of our wish that what is were something else.

Prof. R. M. Roberts on the 21st ult.,

severed his connections with this institution. While we admire his efficiency, both as teacher and superintendent of the farm, his straight-forwardness and energy, it is more as a friend of the students that his absence is regretted, and he carries along with him our best wishes.

Letter writing is one of the most valuable means in the acquisition of good composition. Firstly, if the correspondence be regular and of long standing, what is thought is written, assuming of course that the correspondence be between persons who are perfectly honest toward each other. We write what we think; our ideas are not borrowed; the lavish use of quotation marks (as is noticeable in other forms of composition, and often even their absence does not conceal the quotation) does not occur, and matters of every-day life receive treatment that the most cultured and intellectual books can not supply to the reader.

Secondly, we write what we think in the most natural and conversational manner that is a source of pleasure and delight to the reader. Two great elements of composition are thus cultivated. They are, however, often cultivated at the expense of another, viz.: grammar. While we cultivate the style, consciously or unconsciously, the expression of our thoughts in English, pure and undefiled, is sadly neglected in our correspondence.

Self-Preservation a Duty.

It is an established truth that all living beings, from the lowest to the highest in the universe, tend to protect themselves. In plants we find this law fully displayed. In insect life we find them resembling,

to a greater extent, surrounding objects, such as the limbs and leaves of trees. In birds we find them imitating, as far as possible, sounds, actions and songs of other birds. The higher animals are destitute of this mimicry; their protection depends upon sagacity, strength and power of endurance. Those adapting themselves to environments will survive, and those that fail eventually perish in the struggle which ensues.

Among the highest animals in the scale—man—preservation becomes a duty. He who tends to violate the laws upon which life depends commits a gross violation of a natural law—the law of God.

"The spirit for self-preservation is as vital to the individual as to the state." The state must forbid certain acts that are obnoxious to her growth. The individual must eradicate those evil habits that impede his progress, and acquire those that will aid him in the struggle for existence.

It is the duty of each to prepare for the coming struggles, so that when we are called upon to enter the arena of the world's activities, we should approach with courage, with confidence in our ability, with a strong heart and head, and when we have come out as victors we can say that we have performed our duty to God and man. L. A. H.

ALUMNI.

To give an idea of the work some of our graduates are engaged in, M. Lobowitz, '01, writes to Dr. Krauskopf of his and S. Kolinsky's, '01, work the following:

* * "Since I came to 'Homewood' I have been assisting Sam in fattening fifteen steers for the winter market. Our object is to have each steer, when ready to sell, tip the scale close to fifteen hundred pounds. The steers require our almost undivided attention. The feeding problem was made so much harder because of the flesh they lost through the mismanagement of the former man. We have had the steers in the barn a little over four weeks, yet the manner in which they have improved has brought

forth words of praise and wonderment from all those who have inspected the cattle. Thus we are showing here at 'Homewood' what the application of brawn and brain will do, and what can be accomplished by the Jewish farmer lads from the National Farm School when earnest effort is the principle upon which they work. * * I remain,

"Yours sincerely,

"MORRIS LEBOWITZ.

"Anchorage, Ky., Dec. 9, 1901."

ATHLETICS.

We put aside the pigskin and retire from the gridiron with a feeling of having passed through a successful season. We have played but a few games; in every instance we scored a clean, hard-earned and decisive victory, and not once did our opponents cross our goal line, failing to score in every contest. Both red and white men have we beaten, the former giving us the harder struggle for victory.

At the opening of the season the prospects were not bright. Few and slow-coming candidates, no coach and injured players confronted Captain Mitzmain at the outset, which, except lack of candidates, remained to the last. Despite these obstacles, a winning team was produced through the constant, earnest and united efforts of the individual players. Too much credit can not be given to Captain Mitzmain, who, in all our football contests, was the "Daly" of our team.

The annual meeting of the Athletic Association will take place during the latter part of the month. The election of new officers, who hold office for one year, the annual reports of the retiring officers and the consciousness of having passed through a successful and not profitless foot-ball season, ought to make the meeting enthusiastic, the result of having accomplished good work.

The four or more months between the close of the foot-ball season and the opening of the base-ball season is sufficient time in which to repair the enormous drain that the closing season has had upon the treasury.



FOREST PRESERVATION.

The special interest that the government has shown in preserving the remains of our once beautiful forests has brought forth many an undeserving remark from unobserving people.

Every year shows an increase in demand for lumber. Heretofore forests have been converted into lumber without a moment's thought of replacement.

Necessity justifies the action that the government has taken against the devastation of forests. It is on account of the absence of forests in some of the wheat growing districts and arid regions that so much loss is entailed during the hot summer months.

If the remaining forests would be allowed to be cut down without restriction, we can readily perceive what the existing conditions would be within a few years; but the government has pursued a wise policy in demanding the planting of groves of saplings in place of the forests cut down.

Besides being of great value as timber forests are invaluable on or near the farms, as they attract showers and rains from the passing clouds. It is for this reason that the President wishes to reclaim the vast arid territory in the West by planting here and there groves of trees; small and insignificant at first, but gradually growing larger and larger, un-

til the passing clouds are attracted, and then the bountiful rains that follow will convert the arid and desolate regions into tracts of fertile farms and verdant pastures.

Some may say that the trees planted in arid districts would rapidly perish, but with the aid of irrigation such a mishap will be prevented and as soon as the roots of the trees obtain a firm hold in the soil it is not hard for them to secure the necessary plant food and moisture from the surrounding soil.

When we consider the vast amount of territory to be reclaimed we are rather doubtful as to the success of the undertaking, but knowing the advantages that the government will obtain from improving these lands, we have no fear, if a step is made in that direction, of its success.

HORTICULTURE.

From six hundred to eight hundred roses, consisting of American Beauties, Pearles, Brides and Bridesmaids, are produced in the Theresa Loeb rose house every week and shipped to the Philadelphia market.

We have also been very successful with our carnations, about three hundred being produced every week. By careful work and a little experimenting we have succeeded in keeping our carnation

plants free from the rust, which was so destructive to our plants the year previous.

During the past holidays flowers and plants have been used, both as a means of gifts and decorations. The ostentatious chrysanthemum has already had its say and it now steps aside to make room for its kin, the never-failing favorites of all seasons, roses, carnations and violets, while the frail and tender begonia and lily are replaced by the more hardy palm, fern, rubber plant and geranium.

From time immemorable flowers and plants have been used either for gifts or decorations. To-day they are used for the same purpose; but before proceeding further let us stop and think of what a gift of flowers means.

There might be some fond parent or some affectionate friend whom you wish to surprise and please by giving them some floral offering. Its intrinsic value is never thought of as, when the recipient receives the gift, he or she feels a thrill of pleasure and true enjoyment in receiving this simple but beautiful and most exquisite gift of nature.

Yes, 'tis true they soon wither and die, but the appreciative one will never forget the thrill of pleasure and the few moments of genuine enjoyment that he or she was privileged to enjoy. No more beautiful and appropriate gift can be made; it outshines all others, for do not the gifts that nature has bestowed upon us come first and artificial after?

The plants are to beautify the home, the hall or the ball room; they offset all the work of man and stand forth pre-eminent above all his works.

The ever increasing interest that is being shown in matters pertaining to agriculture indicates the fact that the people are beginning to realize that agri-

culture has become one of the leading sciences and that upon the success of the farmer rests the success of the nation.

The remarkable developments that have recently been made in agricultural lines and the successful experiments that have been carried on throughout the country, show that the American farmer is using both the science and the art.

Constant importation of seeds, plants and fruits permit the farmer to make experiments and enables him to improve his grains and fruits by selection. But by far the greater part of the work is in developing the young plantlet into a mature and thrifty plant. In developing the plant more science is used than art, for we must note the manifold changes that the plant makes; we must observe its habits, its disposition and its adaptability to its new climate and soil. Therein lies the success of the farmer.

To procure new varieties of grains or fruits and select that variety which yields the largest amount on the smallest area, is the chief aim of the scientific agriculturist. Yet this is not all. There are certain crops raised in European countries for which we have to pay large sums to import. Although we raise the same crops, ours are of inferior quality.

The establishment of an experiment station in each State by the government, and its helpful co-operation with the farmer, has been of inestimable value in bringing agriculture up to what it is to-day and making it one of the paying vocations of the twentieth century.

With the growing of tea in one section of country, the growing of tobacco equal in quality to the high grade and expensive kind which we import in another, the growing of grains immune from disease and drought in the third, and the growing of cotton and rice in the fourth, we have a short view of some of the recent developments in agriculture. The heavy losses in the grain section of the country on account of the drought has caused experiments to be made which have been successful. By the crossing of different varieties of wheat, a wheat has been produced which will withstand the severe droughts during the summer and the severe cold in the winter.

PERSONALS AND SOCIALS.

Happy New Year! Glad to be with you again.

Professor Tripp—"What is a meta-physician?"

Newman, '02—"Meta means after, so I guess it means the undertaker, as he comes after the physician.

Lee's, '04, stump speech over the body of Cæsar was a *dead* issue.

The following were the officers elected at the last meeting of the Literary Society: C. S. Heller, '02, president; Elmore Lee, '04, vice president; George S. Borovik, '03, secretary and treasurer, and Louis Hirschowitz, '03, critic.

Professor Faville (in physics)—"How can work be overcome?"

Monblatt, '04—"By shirking it."

Some members of the Literary Society would make excellent hypnotists, judging from the ease in which they can put the rest to sleep in performing program duty.

A good way to kill time in winter—sleigh it.

Some of our amateur carpenters have come to the conclusion that it is better to hit the nail on the head than the nail on the finger.

Breathes there a man with soul so dead,
Who never to himself has said,
As he extracts his nose from a flower rare,
(On finding that a bee was there.)
What he said you can scarcely guess;
'Twas this: "I'll keep my nose from
another's mess."

Most of the students have been vaccinated.

Professor—"Describe the means of locomotion of animals on solids."

Hirschowitz, '03—"This is performed chiefly by aquatic animals."

Professor (in American literature)—"What are the Barbary States?"

Heller, '02 (who talks and thinks United States)—"I guess the States west of the Mississippi were the most barbarous at that time."

Some of the hair-raising stories the Freshmen tell us make us think that they are agents for hair restorers.

If inaction is death, it is no wonder that some of our students "work themselves to death."

Echoes from the backwoods:

First Freshman—"I wonder why they painted the dormitory green."

Second Freshman—"Aw, I guess that's in honor of us Freshies."

First Freshman—"Well, we'd better hurry up and paint it red."

A certain young Junior is a regular plagiarist. After reading essays before the Literary Society the contents are found word for word in Webster's dictionary.

"THE DESCENT OF MAN."

The other day while *descending*,
I passed a Freshman wending

His way along the hillside.
At the base I met a classmate,
Who to me did intimate

(That with which my thoughts did coincide).

"An object lesson you have received,
Which men of science have ne'er conceived—

You have descended from a *monkey*."

Extract from a Freshman's essay:

"The Holstein cow gives good and rich milk and it is black and white."

(In zoology) Professor—"What is a tunicate?"

Borovik, '03—"A rhinoceros."

Goldman, '02—"A crocodile."

At a recent reorganization of the Sophomore Class, M. Levy was elected to the chair. E. Lee was elected vice president and M. Goldman, secretary.

The recent vacation was spent with all due enjoyment. Zalinger, '04, and A. Monblatt, '04, spent it in Chicago; Lee, '04, and Levy, '05, in Pittsburg; Serlin, '02, in Syracuse, N. Y.; R. Kysela, '05, S. Finkel, '05, S. Neustadt, '05, R. Kysela, '05, and H. Hirsch, '05, in New York City; M. Goldman, '04, M. Malish, '05, and S. Rosenblatt, '05, in New Jersey, and the remainder in Philadelphia.

EXCHANGES.

EXCHANGES RECEIVED:

Cheltenham Reville, Ogontz, Pa.;
Peirce School Alumni Journal, Students'
Herald, Pottsville High School Journal,
Blue and Gray, *Red and Blue*, (Army
 and Navy number), *Tuskegee Student*,
Iris, *Old Hughes*, *Searchlight*, (Christ-
 mas number), *Pittsburg High School*
Journal, *Mirror*, Indianapolis, Ind.; *Col-
 lege Signal*, Massachusetts Agricultural
 College; *Helpful Thoughts*, *Perkiomen-
 ite*, *Racquet*, Portland, Me.; *Heleis*,
 Grand Rapids, Mich.; *Jacob Tome Insti-
 tute Monthly*, Port Deposit, Md.; *The*
Fulse, Cedar Rapids, Ia.; *The Spectator*,
 Louisville, Ky., and *Arms Student*, Shell-
 burne Falls, Mass.

The *Blue and Gray* is one of the
 brightest of our Philadelphia exchanges.
 The editor's attempt to justify the exist-
 ence of the school paper is ill advised.
 Save your breath in getting out a journal
 whose need and presence will become
 imperative, and thus it will need no
 other champion than itself.

The Army and Navy number of *Red
 and Blue* ought to form an attractive
 souvenir to all who witnessed the West
 Point-Annapolis foot-ball contest.

We sat alone, while round about
 The darkness settled o'er us,
 Till prudent northern moon came out,
 And satellite before us.—*Ex.*

The neatness and military precision in
 which the *Cheltenham Reville* arranges
 its departments is entirely in keeping
 with the nature of the Cheltenham Mil-
 itary Academy.

"Do you think, Professor, that I can
 ever do anything with my voice?" in-
 quired the musically ambitious youth.

"Well," was the cautious reply, "it
 might come in handy in case of fire."—*Ex.*

Old Hughes, Cincinnati, O., knows,

evidently, how to make little material
 stretch, so as to fill up space. The arti-
 cle upon Thomas Hughes and the per-
 sonals are, however, quite readable.

The best all around exchange we have
 received this month is the November or
 Thanksgiving number of *The High*
School Journal, of Pittsburg, Pa. Space
 does not permit us to recount all the
 good features of this magazine, whose
 methods are deserving of study. The
 numerous short but well written sketches
 are a feature.

GLEANINGS.

"Pa, what becomes of the old moons?"
 asked little Tom as that celestial body
 was hidden from view.

"The old moons, Tommy; why they
 die of new-moonia, to be sure."—*Ex.*

"If all the world were blind, what a
 melancholy sight it would be."

Who sits him down beside the way,
 To wait for Fame to find him,
 Will find that all the world will pass
 And neither see or mind him.—*Ex.*

Judge (bald-headed)—"If half what
 the witnesses testify against you be true,
 your conscience must be as black as
 your hair."

Prisoner—"If a man's conscience is
 regulated by his hair, then your honor
 hasn't any conscience at all."—*Ex.*

Teacher—"A fool can ask a question
 which a wise man can't answer."

Pupil—"I suppose that is why so many
 of us flunk."—*Ex.*

Some folks won't mind their business;
 The reason is, you'll find,
 They either have no business,
 Or else they have no mind.—*Ex.*

Rule in physics: A pupil's conduct
 varies inversely as the square of the dis-
 tance from the professor's desk.—*Ex.*

Sick Man—"Do you think I'll die
 hard?" Quack Doctor—"No, you'll be
 dead easy."—*Ex.*

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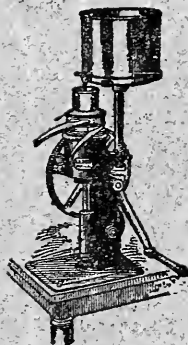
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